

### **In the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (original) A transponder-reader performance tracking system comprising
  - a transponder system responsive to a Radio Frequency interrogation signal, said transponder system including a transponder database, said transponder database storing at least a transponder system identifier, said transponder system identifier;
  - a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) reader in Radio Frequency (RF) communication with said transponder system, said RFID reader providing said interrogation signal to said transponder system and receiving said transponder system identifier; and
  - a resource engine associated with an employer identifier, said resource engine including a point of interaction terminal, said point of interaction terminal in communication with said RFID reader; wherein said RFID reader provides said transponder system identifier to said point of interaction terminal, said point of interaction terminal associating said employer identifier and transponder system identifier to a resource transaction request, forming a performance tracking request, said point of interaction terminal providing said performance tracking request to a resource engine server.
2. (original) A transponder-reader performance tracking system according to Claim 1 wherein said resource engine includes a computer-implemented device configured to facilitate at least one of the management, assignment, grading, and tracking of at least one of resources, tasks, applications, and skills, said method including:
  - a device configured to facilitate obtaining information on applications problems;
  - a device configured to facilitate the defining of tasks associated with said application problems;
  - a device configured to facilitate a determination of the desired resource skills sets to complete said tasks; and
  - a device configured to facilitate the management of said resources and tasks, wherein said device includes at least one of: a device configured to facilitate the automatic grading of skills sets of at least one of local and remote resources to determine resource skills sets scores; a device configured to facilitate the automatic assignment of said resources to said tasks based on said

desired resource skills sets and said resource skills sets scores, and a device configured to facilitate the automatic tracking of said resources based on task start and completion times.

3. (original) A transponder system according to Claim 1, wherein, said RFID reader is configured to be at least one of a free standing and a computer implemented device.

4. (original) A transponder system according to Claim 2, wherein said resource engine further comprises:

a device configured to facilitate grading and tracking said resources and said tasks by the use of an algorithm, said algorithm based upon at least one of: the start times for said application tasks, the completion times for said application tasks and comparisons of resource efficiencies relating to application tasks.

5. (original) A transponder system according to Claim 1, wherein, said RFID reader is further configured to with at least one biometric security devices; wherein said biometric security devices include at least one of pre-registration biometric information, a biometric sensor, and current biometric information.

6. (original) A transponder system according to Claim 5, wherein said biometric information includes at least one of fingerprints, a facial scan, a retinal image, an iris image, a voice print, and a vascular pattern scan.

7. (original) A transponder system according to Claim 1, wherein said RFID reader is further configured to communicate with at least one third-party merchant systems.

8. (original) A transponder system according to Claim 7, wherein said RFID reader is configured to facilitate at least one of transactions, security, and check-out.

9. (currently amended) A performance tracking system comprising:

a transponder system responsive to a Radio Frequency interrogation signal, said transponder system including a transponder database, said transponder database storing at least a transponder system identifier, said transponder system identifier;

a resource engine in communication with said transponder system, said resource engine further comprising a ~~universal serial bus interface and a user interface~~

said resource engine further comprising a means for the authentication of said

transponder system through at least one authentication processes, said authentication processes available through said user interface.

at least one biometric security devices; wherein said biometric security devices include at least one of pre-registration biometric information, a biometric sensor, and current biometric information; wherein said biometric information includes at least one of fingerprints, a facial scan, a retinal image, a voice print, an iris scan, and a tongue scan.

10. (new) A performance tracking system of claim 9, said resource engine further comprising universal serial bus interface.

1140. (currently amended) A performance tracking system of claim 9, wherein said RFID reader is further configured to communicate with at least one third-party merchant systems and wherein said RFID reader is configured to facilitate at least one of transactions, security, and check-out.

1244. (currently amended) A performance tracking system of claim 9, wherein said RFID reader is further configured with a device to monitor and track locational information.

1342. (currently amended) A method for facilitating performance tracking comprising:  
using a transponder to provide a transponder account identifier to a radio frequency identification reader via a radio frequency signal;

associating the transponder account identifier with an employer account identifier to form a performance tracking request;

communicating said performance tracking request to a point of interaction terminal; wherein said point of interaction terminal further communicates with a resource engine using said resource engine to facilitate tracking the performance of a resource associated with said transponder; and

wherein said tracking includes at least one of managing, assigning, tracking and grading at least one of resources, tasks, applications, and skills.

1443. (currently amended) A method for facilitating performance tracking of Claim 1342, wherein said step of using a resource engine further comprises:

- obtaining information related to application problems;
- defining tasks associated with said application problems;

determining desired resource skills to complete said tasks; and

managing said resource skills and said tasks, wherein managing includes at least one of: grading skills sets of at least one of local and remote resources to determine resource skills sets scores; assigning said resources to said tasks based on said desired resource skills and said resource skills sets scores, and tracking said resource skills based on task start and task completion times.

1514. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1413 wherein said step of obtaining information related to applications problems further comprises the step of accessing a system for the management, assignment, grading, and tracking of at least one of resources, tasks, applications, and skills said step of accessing comprises:

inputting authentication information including at least one of a name, password, and identification;

verifying said authentication information; and

transmitting at least one of a homepage and webpage for interfacing with said system

1615. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1312 wherein said step of tracking further includes:

combining relationships for resources, tasks, skills and time entry to facilitate a determination of expected completion times and efficiencies.

1746. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1312, wherein, said steps of using a transponder to provide a transponder account identifier to a radio frequency identification reader via a radio frequency signal and associating the transponder account identifier with an employer account identifier to form a performance tracking request further include using one or more biometric security devices to provide a transponder identifier and employer identifier; wherein said biometric security devices include at least one of pre-registration biometric information, a biometric sensor, and current biometric information.

1817. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1746, wherein said biometric information includes at least one of fingerprints, a facial scan, a retinal image, a voice print, an iris scan, and a tongue scan.

1918. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1342, comprising an additional step of communicating with at least one third-party merchant systems.

2049. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1918, wherein said step of communicating further comprises using said communications to facilitate at least one of performing a transaction, purchasing at least one product and checking out.

2120. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1918, wherein said step of communicating further comprises using said communications to facilitate security measures.

2224. (currently amended) A method for facilitating performance tracking comprising:  
facilitating receiving a transponder account identifier into a radio frequency identification reader via a radio frequency signal;

facilitating associating the transponder account identifier with an employer account identifier to form a performance tracking request; and

facilitating tracking the performance of a resource using said performance tracking request, wherein said tracking includes: managing, assigning, grading, and tracking of at least one of resources, tasks, applications, and skills.

2322. (currently amended) The method of Claim 2224, wherein, said steps of receiving a transponder account identifier and associating the transponder account identifier with an employer account identifier further comprise using one or more biometric security devices; wherein said biometric security devices include at least one of pre-registration biometric information, a biometric sensor, and current biometric information and wherein said biometric information includes at least one of fingerprints, a facial scan, a retinal image, a voice print, an iris scan, and a tongue scan.

2423. (currently amended) The method for facilitating performance tracking of Claim 2224, said method comprising:

obtaining information on applications problems;

defining of tasks associated with said application problems;

determining the desired resource skills sets to complete said tasks; and

managing said resources and tasks, wherein managing includes at least one of: grading the skills sets of at least one of local and remote resources to determine resource skills sets scores; assigning said resources to said tasks based on said desired resource skills sets and said resource skills sets scores, and tracking of said resources based on task start and completion times.

2524. (currently amended) The method for facilitating performance tracking of Claim 2221, comprising an additional step of communicating with at least one third-party merchant systems to facilitate at least one of performing a transaction, purchasing at least one product, checking out and facilitating security measures.

2625. (currently amended) The method for facilitating performance tracking of Claim 2221, further comprising using a device to monitor and track locational information.